

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

27 JUNE 1983

PLO Affairs

'Arafat's expulsion from Syria — In light of PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat's "continued recriminations against Syria," the Syrian authorities informed him of their "desire" that he leave the country, a Syrian information official announced in a statement broadcast by Damascus radio shortly after 'Arafat's expulsion from Syria on 24 June. The statement reaffirmed Syria's desire to prevent Palestinian fratricide and heal the rift within Fatah. However, 'Arafat subsequently announced after arriving in Tunis that PLO positions in Al-Biqa' were besieged by Syrian forces and he warned of the danger of a "new massacre" to finish what was not completed in Beirut, Radio Monte Carlo reported. The PLO leader expressed surprise at Syria's decision, "which was issued even though I went to Damascus in response to an official invitation." 'Arafat told KUNA in a telephone interview that he holds Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad personally responsible for his expulsion. Syria's ban on 'Arafat includes Lebanese areas under Syrian control and its decision also applies to PLO deputy military commander Khalil Al-Wazir, according to Radio Monte Carlo. Al-Wazir told the radio in a 24 June interview that he will remain among the Fatah fighters in Al-Biqa' "regardless of the consequences."

Further Syrian Comment, Measures — Affirming that 'Arafat's expulsion from Damascus stems from Syria's concern to maintain Palestinian unity, the Damascus paper *Al-Ba'th* said Syria took this measure after it became certain that 'Arafat, "in agreement with foreign sides," intended to turn the Al-Biqa' valley into a field for Palestinian fratricide and drag to Syria into the fighting, Damascus radio reported. In a related commentary, the radio said 'Arafat's hostile behavior toward Syria was unacceptable under any circumstances. Stressing Syria's firm commitment to the Palestinian issue, the radio said that had it not been for Syria's steadfastness and principled stands, "some people" would have entered the White House in Washington instead of fighting to enter the "Palestinian house" in Jerusalem. In another development, the radio cited a Fatah official in Damascus as denying reports on the closure of Fatah offices in Syria. Another Fatah official confirmed that all Fatah and PLO offices and officials in Damascus were operating normally, according to Radio Monte Carlo. The Syrians have intensified efforts to avert clashes between Fatah loyalists and dissidents in Lebanon, the radio also reported.

Further PLO Comment, 'Arafat Activities — The ban on Yasir 'Arafat and Khalil Al-Wazir is a "serious precedent" and a "stab in the back for Palestinian legitimacy," Baghdad Voice of Plo radio stated in a 24 June commentary. 'Arafat subsequently flew to Prague for a 1-day visit during which he held talks with officials and addressed the World Assembly for Peace and Life, KUNA reported. In his speech to the assembly, which was broadcast by Prague television on 25 June, 'Arafat deplored attempts by both Arabs and non-Arabs to impose their influence by force on the PLO and undermine its independence. 'Arafat

also accused the United States of attempting to liquidate the PLO, reaffirmed the PLO's rejection of the Reagan plan, and reiterated its support for the Soviet proposal for an international conference on the Middle East. After 'Arafat's return to Tunis the following day, Radio Monte Carlo said the PLO leader would shortly visit Saudi Arabia to brief King Fahd on the Palestinian-Syrian dispute.

Earlier, a PLO source in Tunis announced that 'Arafat will shortly call for a PNC meeting, KUNA noted. Several PNC members have cabled 'Arafat to request an emergency PNC meeting, Riyadh radio reported citing a PLO source in the UAE. In another development, the PLO charge d'affaires in Moscow issued a communique denouncing Syria's decision to expel 'Arafat and claiming that the PLO under 'Arafat's leadership enjoys the full support of the Soviet Union, KUNA reported.

PFLP-GC, Dissidents' Views — The Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command (PFLP-GC) "has not participated in the military actions against 'Arafat's group" although it supports the dissidents politically, PFLP-GC Leader Ahmad Jibril claimed in a Radio Monte Carlo interview. Fatah dissident leader Colonel Sa'id Musa subsequently denied that Syrian forces have participated in the clashes with 'Arafat's supporters, whom he accused of starting the recent fighting in Al-Biqa'. Speaking in an interview with Damascus television, he asserted that his men are "unionists, not secessionists," and reaffirmed his demand that the dispute be settled by a Fatah General Congress.

PFLP-DFLP Joint Command — In a statement broadcast by San'a' Voice of Palestine radio, the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine and the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine announced the formation of a joint military and political command to promote unity and strengthen relations between the two organizations. The measure, which is based on their intimate rapprochement and common ideology, does not represent an "axis" but is aimed at unifying and strengthening the PLO, the statement added.

Fatah-Syria Clashes, Tension — Baghdad Voice of PLO radio accused Syria of staging the attack on the Fatah convoy traveling inside Syria on the night of 23 June, asserting that Syrian forces set up several ambushes for the convoy. The radio subsequently reported "high tension" between PLO and Syrian forces in Al-Biqa' as the latter continued to besiege Palestinian positions and block supplies to them. Syrian special units surrounded positions of Fatah's Squad 17 in Jdita and Ta'lbaya, Voice of Lebanon radio reported on 25 June.

Arab Comment, Diplomacy — The *Jordan Times* described Yasir 'Arafat's expulsion from Damascus as a "gigantic step backward" and cited an unnamed PLO official's opinion that Syria has made a "deal" with the United States against the PLO. Another Amman paper, *Ad-Dustur*, provided coverage of support

for 'Arafat voiced by Palestinians residing in Jordan. West Bank and Gaza Palestinians also condemned Syria's expulsion of 'Arafat, according to the Jerusalem paper *Al-Fajr*, and Shaykh Sa'd al-Din al-'Alami, chairman of the Islamic Committee in Jerusalem, described Syrian President al-Asad as an "infidel" who must be killed. Whoever dies in the attempt to kill this tyrant becomes a martyr, the shaykh said.

Meanwhile, President al-Asad held talks over the weekend with the visiting Saudi and Algerian foreign ministers, Damascus radio reported. Al-Asad also met with PFLP leader George Habash and held a telephone conversation with Libya's Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhafi, the radio noted. Before leaving Damascus, the Algerian foreign minister met with Palestinian officials and issued a statement expressing Algeria's support for the PLO in its attempt to preserve unity and independence, according to Radio Monte Carlo. In other developments, KUNA reported that the Kuwaiti Cabinet urged all parties concerned to settle their "marginal differences" and MENA quoted the Egyptian foreign minister as calling for "hands off the PLO."

Lebanon

Habib Talks — The United States is now less optimistic than before about the chances of persuading Syria to withdraw from Lebanon, IDF radio reported on 27 June following U.S. presidential envoy Philip Habib's meeting with Israeli leaders in Jerusalem.

Security, Military situation — Two IDF soldiers were wounded in an ambush north of Sidon, the IDF spokesman announced on 26 June in a statement broadcast by IDF radio. Beirut and Voice of Lebanon radios reported that Israeli and Syrian forces exchanged artillery fire in Al-Biq'a on 24 and 25 June. Druze and Christian militia also exchanged fire in the areas east of Beirut, according to a 27 June Beirut radio report.

Libya - Chad

Libya has not intervened in the current battles in Chad, which are between rival Chadian groups, the Libyan People's Bureau in Paris asserted in a statement reported by JANA. The statement reaffirmed Libya's declared policy that it will be "forced" to intervene if any outside parties attempt to intervene in Chad.

An Egyptian Foreign Ministry official accused Libya of supporting the fighting inside Chad in order to cause trouble and endanger its security and unity, Cairo radio reported. Egypt vehemently condemns foreign interference in Chad's domestic affairs, the official added.

Maghreb Affairs

A Saharan Red Crescent communique reported by APS accused Morocco of kidnapping and assassinating Saharan civilians.

Iran-Iraq Conflict

Iranian forces killed 200 Iraqi soldiers and wounded some 250 others in an attack on Iraqi positions along the border heights

near Sar Dasht on 24 and 25 June, according to Tehran radio. A military communique broadcast by the radio said Iranian aircraft attacked and damaged an Iraqi oil jetty on 25 June. Meanwhile, Iraqi aircraft attacked a "number" of Iranian naval vessels, destroying one of them, as they were attempting to enter the port of Bandar-e Khomeyni, an Iraqi military communique broadcast by Baghdad radio reported on 25 June.

Earlier, the Paris daily *Le Monde* reported that France has agreed to lend Iraq five Super-Etendard aircraft equipped with Exocet missiles for 2 years. The agreement, although not yet officially announced, is the first one ever concluded between France and a foreign "client" involving such important armaments, the paper added.

Iran

The Iranian authorities have executed Tudeh Party Secretary General Nureddin Kianuri, along with some 40 other members of the now defunct party, the clandestine Free Voice of Iran radio said on 25 June citing "reliable" reports. On 21 June the London *Daily Telegraph* carried a similar but "unconfirmed" report. Monitored Iranian media have not reported Nureddin Kianuri's execution.

Afghanistan

Geneva Talks — "Substantial" progress has been made at the Geneva indirect talks on Afghanistan, the UN secretary general's representative, Diego Garcia, said after the conclusion of the third round of talks on 24 June, according to Karachi radio. The UN representative is to undertake a new round of discussions in the capitals of Iran, Pakistan, and Afghanistan, the radio said, and will also hold preliminary consultations with the USSR and the United States as possible guarantors of a settlement. A UN Information Office press communique said that further progress has been made with regard to the draft text of a comprehensive settlement of the problem and that the discussions were held in a "realistic and give-and-take" manner, the radio reported. Subsequently, Pakistani Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan also assessed the talks positively by saying there was "steady" progress on the issues and "no deadlock" in the talks, according to another Karachi radio report.

Insurgent Activity — Afghan insurgents destroyed several aircraft and killed 16 Soviet soldiers in an attack on Afghanistan's largest Soviet-operated airbase on 7 June, according to SPA citing an Afghan press agency report. In other engagements, the insurgents claimed to have destroyed 5 oil tankers and other vehicles along the Herat-Qandahar highway, and killed 19 soldiers belonging to Soviet-DRA forces in an attack on Pashmul village in southeastern Afghanistan, SPA said.

Pakistan

A Foreign Office spokesman in Islamabad denied the allegation of the New Delhi paper *Patriot* that Pakistan tested a nuclear device on 13 June, Karachi radio reported.

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Babrak Karmal Addresses NFF Provincial Leaders

LD252048 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT
25 Jun 83

[Text] Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and president of the DRA Revolutionary Council, received chairmen and vice chairmen of the National Fatherland Front (NFF) provincial councils and participants of the Third NFF Central Council Plenum in Revolutionary Council Headquarters at 1700 today and spoke with them in an atmosphere of friendship.

In his opening speech Babrak Karmal welcomed the chairmen and vice chairmen of NFF provincial councils to Kabul, capital of the DRA, and congratulated them on the successful ending of the Third NFF Central Council Plenum. Babrak Karmal spoke about the meaning of the front, saying: There have always been fronts of various kinds in history. (?Toward the end) of the 19th century in our country there were fronts against colonialism, exploitation, and imperialism, in which leaders, elders, and dignitaries gathered together and with the support of the country's millions of peasants brought to its knees the largest world power — British imperialism. Referring to the creation of fronts and unions in the (?history) of our country Babrak Karmal said: In the seventh session of parliament we were witness to the formation of temporary unions and fronts against despotic governments. As far as our party — the PDPA — is concerned, it has always chosen unity as a slogan and [words indistinct] the front slogan. He added: On the international and national levels there have always been fronts. (?Some of them) are unholy fronts for the interests of colonialism, oppression, fascism, and chauvinism that want to drive the world to bloodshed and war. There is also the broad international front for the defense of peace, freedom, and progress. Those who form the (?former type of) front are the devils of U.S. imperialism, while on the other side are the peace forces who are fighting against these devils.

Babrak Karmal added: The NFF is not a temporary front and is not opportunist or demagogical, rather it is a living front that will explain the system and nature of our country in all fields. He also said: As I mentioned previously, our political and military system is based on the principles of the front. We have recently started this work, and the [word indistinct] development of this task requires time. He added: Mistakes have been made since the revolution, but the new stage of the revolution is the stage at which we will solve our issues and (?problems) with care, consultation, talks, the organization of councils, and the formation of tribal assemblies. The first step is our crucial duty to restore nationwide peace and calm.

Continuing, Babrak Karmal said: No power can reverse our revolution. The wheel of history goes forward. At the appropriate time we should form local and national authorities, a task that should be carried out on the basis of the equal rights of all individuals in society — from districts to villages — taking into consideration the praiseworthy customs and traditions of the people. We want to create Afghanistan in which legality and social justice are fully guaranteed. However, it is difficult to secure the full rights of the people in all corners of the country from the capital — they are the people who defend their rights.

They should form a national government and take part in the administration of the country in a democratic manner.

Babrak Karmal added: The solution of all Afghanistan's problems can only be found through the NFF over time and in the course of the developmental stages of our society's evolution.

BAKHTAR reports that at the end of Babrak Karmal's speech the chairmen of the provincial councils of Balk and Parvan spoke on behalf of the others and, expressing profound gratitude at meeting with Babrak Karmal, said: Your useful advice, dear leader, has always been the light on our path, and we assure you, dear leader, that we will spare no sacrifice in implementing the aspirations of the revolution, which are the wishes of our (?party) and all of the people of Afghanistan.

Keshmand Addresses Governor's Conference

LD270259 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT
26 Jun 83

[Excerpts] Dear listeners of Radio Afghanistan: The seminar of the governors of the country's provinces on the decisions and resolutions of the PDPA Central Committee 11th Plenum convened this morning in the Council of Ministers Headquarters.

The opening session of this seminar was attended by Soltan 'Ali Keshmand, PDPA Central Committee Politburo member and chairman of the DRA Council of Ministers; Saleh Mohammad Ziray and Nur Ahmad Nur, Politburo members and PDPA Central Committee secretaries; other members of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo; some members of the party Central Committee and members of the Council of Ministers; the head and some officials of the General Directorate of Local Organs of the State Administration; and the governors of all the country's provinces.

The session began with the playing of the DRA national anthem, then Soltan 'Ali Keshmand, member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the DRA Council of Ministers, opened the work of the seminar and in a speech said:

[Begin recording] Dear Comrades, we have gathered here today to evaluate the (?work and activities) of the country's provinces in light of the decisions of the PDPA Central Committee 11th Plenum and to (?define) the work of comrade governors in the light of these decisions and the present particular conditions in the country.

Governors, in the status of the [word indistinct] representatives of the DRA Government shoulder the burden of important duties and are directly responsible to the DRA Council of Ministers, that is, to the government. Of course, since, as a whole, the government is directed and led by the PDPA Central Committee, the authorities of the provinces are also guided by the decisions and resolutions of the PDPA Central Committee and other party authorities, and also by the decisions of the party provincial committees. And therefore, the principle of collective leadership is being observed. But, in any case, the (?assumed) responsibilities of the governors toward the party and government remain.

Also, district and subdistrict governors bear separate responsibilities. On the one hand, they are directly responsible to the relevant governor and on the other hand, they are guided by party authorities including the district and subdistrict party committees.

According to the joint decision of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and the DRA Council of Ministers, the appointment of district and subdistrict governors by the governors in consultation with the secretaries of the provincial committees is an important and effective step that will help in establishing state power in localities, districts, and subdistricts. Also according to this the powers of the governors have been further increased.

Provincial headquarters [as heard] (?is one of) the main and important organs, which has been established according to the decision of high authorities of the party and state, is headed by the governors, and the secretary of the party provincial committee is a member of this headquarters [as heard]. This is another significant power given to comrade governors, who should make reasonable, effective, and principled use of this authority.

After the victory of the new development stage of the April Revolution, in continuation of reforms in [passage indistinct], one was the separation of the (?administration) of the affairs of the provinces from one member of the government, that is, from the Ministry of Internal Affairs, and its attribution to the government as a whole. Of course, this was a first step, but a very important and principled step. As it looks now, we have not succeeded in this matter as we should have.

Sometimes, it is assumed that perhaps the General Directorate of the Local Organs of the State Administration is an independent and separate department that works within the framework of the Council of Ministers. However, this is not so. This department is part of the apparatus of the Council of Ministers.

Of course, in the near future we will try to bring about specific and reasonable changes in order to maintain organic and daily links by way of improving state administration in the provinces and localities directly by the apparatus of the Council of Ministers.

Also we have in mind to approve the local state budgets in the year 1363 [year beginning 21 March 1984] and in this way [word indistinct] independence of the provincial authorities will be increased. Also in this way the necessary facilities will be created in the monetary allocations of the provinces.

But the main and important step which will be [words indistinct] in favorable conditions is the (?approval and implementation) of the law of local organs. According to this law, local councils will be created in the provinces, districts, and subdistricts, and in this way the principle of collective administration will be also created. State administration will be further democratized and opportunities will be created for the direct participation of the people in the affairs of the state administration. [end recording]

At the end of the meeting, Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand, member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the DRA Council of Ministers, made a speech in which he highly appraised the work of the seminar of governors and, explaining

the tasks which the PDPA Central Committee 11th Plenum has entrusted to the governors of the country's provinces, he said:

[Begin recording] Comrades, during today's meeting beneficial discussion took place regarding the tasks of the provincial authorities. In the basic statement of the seminar new and specific topics were introduced and in the statements of the comrade ministers and comrade governors good proposals were made regarding improving work and methods. Also, specific proposals and views were offered by the governors in yesterday's preliminary meeting and the socioeconomic and political situation as well as security in the provinces were discussed. These have been taken note of and will be assessed. The demands and wishes of the people which have been proposed by you, comrades, will be met as far as possible. Specific measures will be taken to improve the situations in the country's provinces in the interest of the toiling masses of our people.

Comrades, allow me, in assessing the proposals and views of those who have spoken in connection with the present situation and conditions, and which are of great importance, to point out a few things: A backward economy along with low agricultural and industrial level of growth has been left to us from the past. Of course without eliminating this economic backwardness and without the growth and development of the production forces it is not possible to succeed in rendering revolutionary tasks and reach the major goals of the April Revolution: enhancing the standard of living of the people and building a new society based on justice and equality. That is why the great importance of the PDPA Central Committee 11th Plenum, which specifically dealt with economic affairs, could be realized.

I do not want to repeat the tasks which the 11th plenum has laid on our shoulders. However, I would like to point out that the decisions of the PDPA Central Committee 11th Plenum demand a great deal of readiness and capability from us. As it is obvious that successes and victories cannot be achieved by themselves, achieving the tasks facing us demands broad organizational and political work in the provinces and regions. It is necessary to make every effort to revive and repair all projects and establishments which have been (?attacked) by the counterrevolutionary criminals, to revive inactive production units, and to implement all plans and indices drafted by the (?plenum) in all factories, enterprises, and establishments. You, comrade governors, as the authorized representatives of the state in the provinces, can play an important role in realizing this matter.

Comrades, another matter that I would like to shed light upon is the growth of agriculture and the implementation of the democratic land and water reform in the country, which is irrevocably linked with the daily work of you, the governors. I have comprehensively explained the major aspects of the policy of agricultural growth and the fundamental line of the implementation of land and water reform in the present stage during the meeting of the activists of the Ministry of Agriculture and Land Reform. I would like once again to explain some of those points and draw the attention of you, comrade governors, to those matters that must be carried out with the cooperation of the party departments and state organs. The land policy of the party has been reflected in the party's action program and in the statements of Comrade Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Cen-

tral Committee and president of the DRA Revolutionary Council, in the party's nationwide conference, and in the PDPA Central Committee 11th Plenum. One of the most important tasks of the April national democratic revolution is to eliminate feudal relations in villages and to distribute land to landless peasants and those with small plots of land.

In order to develop agriculture and to improve the country's irrigation situation, we have many opportunities to utilize. In addition to our internal resources in this area, we enjoy the all-round and extensive assistance of the Soviet Union. Its new experiences are also at our disposal and thus we shall make effective and maximum use of these opportunities in the country's provinces through agricultural and land reform departments. It is worth mentioning that, due to the importance of the matter, the role and authority of the Departments of Agriculture and Land Reform will be enhanced in the provinces more than ever before. The Council of Ministers recently studied this new [word indistinct] of the Ministry of Agriculture and Land Reform approved that all departments of that ministry in the provinces should come under the agricultural presidencies and departments of land reform in every province, and the directors of agriculture in the provinces should be recognized and work as deputy governors for agricultural affairs.

Comrades, under the present conditions another one of the most important tasks that we have is to consolidate and expand state power in districts, subdistricts, and villages in the country. The governors have a grave responsibility in this regard. The consolidation of the pillars of revolution in the society means the consolidation and expansion of the state power throughout the country. The people in every locality and every village ought to feel the existence of the democratic power of the state; they ought to be broadly recruited to defend the policy of the party and revolutionary state and go with confidence and trust to the local organs for solutions to their problems. Of course this is a long-term process and has been carried out for the first time in the country. This process must be described and explained.

Prior to the national democratic April Revolution, democratic and popular sovereignty did not exist in villages, districts, and subdistricts. A despotic state power was imposed on the people through central [word indistinct], in particular despotic and selfish, corrupt officials. Now internal and external counter-revolutionaries are trying to bring about the past situation once again. Of course, they will never succeed in this aim, because, after the victory of the new stage of the revolution, the true sovereignty of toilers, the sovereignty of new revolutionary and democratic order has been established in the provinces, in the districts, and in the subdistricts, which is being expanded and increasingly consolidated. The people wittingly join in this process. [applause] The consolidation and expansion of the state sovereignty is tied to the (important) provincial work directed by the governors.

The matter of state power and its consolidation and expansion is linked directly and proportionately to the defense power of the country's armed forces. The consolidation of the country's armed forces defense capability, in addition to [word indistinct] readiness, depends to a large extent on the raising of morale and the enhancement of the level of combat readiness and [word

indistinct] from technical expertise and combat equipment; and this then depends as a whole on the provision of personnel. The government attaches top priority to the question of recruitment and calling up troops under the present conditions in which an undeclared war by reactionary and imperialist forces has been unleashed and continues against our country and also to the consolidation and expansion of state power. This is one of the most important tasks of the provincial officials, in particular the governors. Comrade governors must daily assess the question of recruitment and calling up for military service and should make serious efforts to complete [words indistinct]. The approval of the Council of Ministers regarding non-recruitment of workers for military service and calling up worker reservists and personnel of state establishments, which are considered [word indistinct] and their operation is necessary for the normal activity of the national economy, should be seriously considered. In accordance with the joint resolution of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and the DRA Council of Ministers, the list of departments and skills whose officials are not subject to recruitment and military service, are being prepared and will be sent to the country's provinces for implementation.

Recently, the draft decree of the DRA Revolutionary Council Presidium concerning appendix No 3 of the General Military Conscription Law has been prepared and will be considered in the near future. According to this supplement, exemption from recruitment and call-up for the purpose of continuing studies and various categories of pupils and students who are studying, or have concluded their studies, are defined. Due to the importance of the recruitment and call-up of youths and reservists to the ranks of the armed forces, during the month of April of the current year, some secretaries of the PDPA Central Committee, vice chairmen of the Council of Ministers, and heads and commanders of the ranks and units of the Ministry of Defense were sent to the zones in order to carry out this task. This matter played an outstanding role in the implementation of the plan of recruitment and call-up and in almost all the zones the plan of recruitment and call-up was implemented. Specific changes have taken place in the method of recruitment and call-up. In the past this was done by the army and sarandoy, but now the local organs of state power are also active in this matter. During the month of Hamal [beginning 21 March] of this year recruitment and call-up of youths and reservists in 1362 [1983-84] had been divided up by month and province and was implemented in this manner. This plan has been explained and communicated to the units and companies of the army and to the provincial governors and party secretaries. According to this plan it is necessary to determine the share of every district and subdistrict and for the responsibility of recruiting and calling up to be entrusted to district and subdistrict governors. It is necessary that in every province a commission for recruitment and call-up be established under the chairmanship of the governor, deputy secretary; and provincial party committee; representatives of sarandoy, KHAD, DYOA, and the Ministry of Defense be appointed as members of the commission; and the [word indistinct] of recruitment and call-up be the responsibility of this commission. We will regularly hear the commission's report and will seriously investigate and interrogate those who do not implement the recruitment and call-up plan. The PDPA Central Committee will apply serious measures to further stimulate the flow of recruitment and call-up and equipping the armed forces in all respects. We will seriously

question all those who do not implement the plan of recruitment and call-up to the army. There is no place for such persons in our ranks.

Comrade Governors, I would like to point out an important fact. The (?reaffirmation) cited today in connection with the enhancement of your role and authority in the administration of the provinces by no means signals the building of [word indistinct] and personal dictatorship and arbitrariness. You are dutybound to seriously take into consideration the decisions and resolution of the party and state leadership and the leadership of the party committees and act in accordance with their decisions. There must be complete unison in the work of the party provincial committees and the state administration. You should organize the relevant matters with the cooperation of the party committees in such a way that all the people will become familiar with the policy of the PDPA, will understand its truth, and take part in its implementation. Of course under the present conditions the implementation of this policy demands more effort on your part.

It should be mentioned that the counterrevolutionary activities designed to prevent [word indistinct] and the will of the people, are not long-lasting and permanent. The efforts of the internal counterrevolutionaries and their instigators, i.e., international reaction and imperialism, are doomed to complete defeat and failure. [applause] The day is not far off when our people, with their creative work, will construct a new society and a new life for themselves. In order to reach this goal we must put all our efforts into strengthening the country's defense power and the national economy.

Comrades, we realize that you are faced with problems in your daily work, but we hope that you will overcome these problems, realize the importance of the local organs of state power, and try to enhance the level of their work under the present troublesome conditions.

Internal Affairs Minister Returns From USSR

*LD262035 Kabul Domestic Service Pashto 1530 GMT
26 Jun 83*

[Text] Minister of Internal Affairs Sayyed Mohammad Golabzoy returned home today from a friendly visit to the Soviet Union at the invitation of the Internal Affairs Ministry of that country.

He was welcomed at Kabul International Airport by Solayman La'eq, high jirgah of nationalities and tribes, and a number of high-ranking officials of the Ministry of Internal Affairs.

Ratebzad Meets With Indian Delegation in Prague

*LD252104 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT
25 Jun 83*

[Text] Anahita Ratebzad, member of the PDPA Central Committee Polituro and chairman of the DRA Peace, Solidarity and Friendship Organization, met last night in Prague with the head and members of the Indian Republic's delegation to the Prague Peace Assembly.

The BAKHTAR correspondent reports from Prague that Anahita Ratebzad answered questions of the Indian delegation, and in return the Indian delegation conveyed the solidarity of Mrs Gandhi's government and of the Indian people with the people of Afghanistan in the struggle for peace and calm in the region.

The Indian delegation condemned the policy of U.S. imperialism in the region, particularly the fact that the Reagan administration has transformed Pakistan into the gendarme of the region and has transformed it into a place of undeclared war against Afghanistan.

Government Denies Preparations for Nuclear Test

*BK241604 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT
24 Jun 83*

[Text] New Delhi has denied as totally unfounded and untrue an American newspaper report alleging that preparation are being made to explode a nuclear device in the Rajasthan desert. The newspaper had based its story on unnamed sources saying that additional shafts have been sunk at the site of the Pokhran explosion for another test.

A spokesman of the External Affairs Ministry today categorically denied the report. The report was published by *The Washington Post*. It has published similar stories about India's peaceful nuclear programs on two early occasions — once in December and again in February last. The union government had described the earlier reports as utterly irresponsible.

PATRIOT Reports Pakistan Explodes Nuclear Device

BK250500 Hong Kong AFP in English 0441 GMT 25 Jun 83

[Text] New Delhi, June 25 (AFP) — Pakistan has exploded a nuclear device in the range of 20-50 kilotons in the mountain ranges near Quetta, the pro-Moscow *Patriot* newspaper reported today quoting "highly competent sources." The paper said in a front-page story said the test blast was believed to have been carried out last June 13, the first day of the Moslem holy month of Ramadan and the most auspicious day in the Moslem calendar.

The report, signed by *Patriot* editor R.K. Mishra, said Indian scientists monitored a seismic event around 0230 GMT on June 13 that registered around 4.5 on the Richter scale. The epicentre was south of Quetta in the Ras Koh mountain ranges, it said. The *Patriot* said Islamabad could have succeeded in keeping the explosion under wraps by putting out a story of an earthquake in the region. But, nearly two weeks after the seismic event was recorded, there had been no mention of anything like it in the Pakistani media or the government.

The paper noted it was well known that Pakistan had made preparations since 1979 for underground tests in the vicinity of Dalbandin in northwestern Baluchistan Province, which includes Quetta. It said U.S. and Soviet reconnaissance satellites had also confirmed that tunnelling was underway in the Ras Koh mountains, south east of Dalbandin. Against this background, the June 13 seismic event could only have been caused by a 20-50 kiloton range explosion, it quoted the informed experts as saying.

Government Spokesman on Explosion

*BK251605 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1544 GMT
25 Jun 83*

[Text] There was what is called a seismic event in Pakistan 12 days ago, but its exact causes are not known. Asked by newsmen whether the event would be consistent with the nuclear explosion, an official spokesman in New Delhi replied it could be, it may not be.

The spokesman was replying to a question on a New Delhi newspaper report that Pakistan had exploded a nuclear device in an underground test. He said the seismic station of the Bhabha Atomic Research Center at Gawribidanur, near Bangalore, recorded a seismic event on the morning of Monday, the 13th of this month. The Pakistan Foreign Office in Islamabad and the Embassy in New Delhi have denied the press report describing it as false and baseless.

Reportage on Punjab's Akali Dal Situation

Gandhi Addresses Sikh Delegation

*BK240953 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT
24 Jun 83*

[Text] Speaking to a Sikh delegation, Mrs Gandhi stressed the need for keeping the country strong and united. The delegation was led by Jathedar Rachhpal Singh, president of the Shiromani Akali Dal, Master Tara Singh group. She said if the country is strong, all problems faced by it can be solved in an effective manner. She expressed the hope that the Sarkaria Commission, while reviewing center-state relations, would keep in mind the need for keeping the country strong and see that it does not become weaker in any way. The prime minister condemned those indulging in violent acts in Punjab. She said the country can progress only if the people of all religions worked together. In Punjab, she said, the Sikhs and Hindus have been living together for generations and those who are making them fight are only aiming at weakening the country.

The prime minister complimented the Sikhs for their bravery, valor, and fighting qualities. She said the government has always been ready to accept their genuine demands. The religious demands of the Akali Dal have been accepted and the Sarkaria Commission has been set up. The government is also willing to refer the river waters dispute and territorial matters to tribunals, she added.

Terms Akali Stand 'Unreasonable'

*BK240959 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT
24 Jun 83*

[Text] The prime minister has described as unreasonable the Akali Dal's stand in not responding to the government's offer of negotiations to settle the pending issues. Mrs Gandhi was speaking to a delegation of the Rashtriya Ekata Andolan [national unity movement] — a women's campaign for communal harmony and national integration — when they called on her in New Delhi this morning. She said it would be in the interest of Punjab itself if the problem is resolved through negotiations, but if they are not agreeable to resume talks, what can the government do about it, she asked. The delegation led by its chairperson Mrs Aruna Asaf Ali presented an appeal signed by more than 100,000 women from all over India.

Speaking at length on the Punjab tangle, Mrs Gandhi condemned violence being resorted to by the Akali Dal to press their demands resulting in great hardship to innocent people. She said no other government in the world has taken such a prolonged

course of negotiations with agitationists. Mrs Gandhi criticized the opposition for adopting a double standard. She said on the one hand, they say they are with the agitationists, but on the other, the opposition ask the government to be more strict with them. She said that government believes that only through negotiations the Punjab tangle can be resolved. Mrs Gandhi said whether in Punjab or Assam, the disturbances are not entirely unrelated. It is time we should think deeply and find out who or what is behind these disturbances. Mrs Gandhi asked women to raise their voice against violence, communalism, and casteism. Only then there will be an impact on the society. She said women have a great role to play in maintaining peace in the world.

Earlier, Mrs Aruna Asaf Ali urged the prime minister to continue her efforts to resolve the Punjab problem. She hoped that the latest initiative taken by the government will lead to an equitable solution. The appeal refers to the situation in Punjab as a reflection of the grave crisis facing the country.

Akali Dal Leader Statement

*BK251624 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT
25 Jun 83*

[Text] The Akali Dal president, Sant Harchand Singh Longowal, has reiterated his party's demand that the river waters issue should be referred to the Supreme Court to facilitate a legal and constitutional solution. In a statement in Amritsar today, he said territorial issue should be referred to a commission of linguistic experts. Chandigarh, he said, should be immediately merged with Punjab. The Akali chief rejected the home minister's suggestion for a committee to screen people living within the premises of holy shrines. He described the home minister, Mr Sethi's, recent statement on Punjab as vague.

Tribunal Plan Rejected

*BK240950 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0730 GMT
24 Jun 83*

[Text] Two Akali leaders, Mr G.S. Tohra and Mr Balwant Singh, today rejected the center's offer to refer to separate tribunals the territorial and river waters disputes between Punjab and Haryana. They were addressing a news conference in Chandigarh today.

Opposition Meeting on Punjab

*BK261505 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT
26 Jun 83*

[Text] The Janata Party will not take part in the opposition meeting called on Thursday to discuss the Punjab issue. The leader of the Janata Parliamentary Party, Mr Madhu Dandavate, said in New Delhi there had been no prior consultation about holding the meeting. He said the decision of the party not to take part in the opposition meeting was taken after consultations with the party president, Mr Chandra Shekhar, and other senior leaders last night. The Lok Dal and the

Bharatiya Janata Party have already decided to stay away from the meeting.

Sikh Demonstration at U.S. Embassy

*BK250857 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT
25 Jun 83*

[Text] A demonstration was held in front of the American Embassy in New Delhi today by the Indian Sikh Youth Federation. The demonstrators were protesting against the American ambassador's recent remarks equating the Khalistan demand with the freedom struggle of the people of Puerto Rico. Raising slogans for Hindu-Sikh amity, the demonstrators demanded recall of the ambassador. Later they submitted a memorandum to the embassy.

Shooting in Kapurthala District

*BK261625 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT
26 Jun 83*

[Text] In Punjab, one person was killed and another seriously injured when some unidentified persons opened fire at them at (Sultanpur Lodhi) in Kapurthala District last night. Investigations are on. According to the superintendent of police, Kapurthala, the miscreants tried to damage buses parked at the (Sultanpur Lodhi) bus stand.

The district peace committee of Jullundur has appealed to the citizens to help maintain peace and communal harmony in the city and avoid any action which may injure the feelings of any community. The Punjab health minister, Mr Joginder Pall Pandey, who presided over the meeting of the peace committee in Jullundur today, sought full cooperation of the members in this regard. The situation in Jullundur is under control.

The state chief minister, Mr Darbara Singh, has urged the residents of Jullundur not to indulge in any act of violence. In a statement in Chandigarh, he reiterated that the government will take stern action against those who try to spoil the congenial atmosphere in the state.

President's Rule Declared in Pondicherry

*BK241612 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT
24 Jun 83*

[Excerpt] Pondicherry has come under president's rule. According to an order issued by the president under Article 239 of the Constitution in New Delhi today, the union territory assembly has been dissolved. The operation of certain provisions of the Government of India, Union Territories Act, has also been suspended there for a period of 6 months. The president took the action after considering the report submitted to him by the Lt Governor, (K.M. Chandi), on Wednesday. This followed the withdrawal of the Congress-I from the Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam-led coalition government in the union territory.

Spokesman Rejects Nuclear Test Allegations*BK251037 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 25 Jun 83*

[Text] A Pakistan Foreign Office spokesman in Islamabad today categorically rejected as totally false and baseless mischievous allegations by an Indian newspaper that Pakistan carried out an explosion of a nuclear device on the 13th of this month. The unfounded canard was published this morning by Delhi's newspaper *Patriot*, nefarious for its biased and motivated whims.

The spokesman pointed out that the Government of Pakistan has reiterated on numerous occasions that it has no intention of developing nuclear weapons.

Karachi Reports on UN Talks on Afghanistan**Talks End***BK241734 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 24 Jun 83*

[Text] The current phase of the UN-sponsored indirect talks on Afghanistan has ended in Geneva. ASSOCIATED PRESS OF PAKISTAN [APP] says that final touches were being given this afternoon to the press release with the special representative of the UN secretary general on Afghanistan, Mr Cordovez, which was expected to be issued at the end of the talks. The UN intermediary was establishing contacts with the Pakistan delegation and the representative of the Karmal regime for this purpose. There was an informal meeting between the Pakistan delegation and Mr Cordovez at midday today. The Karmal representative was due to meet Mr Cordovez later.

The concluding process, in fact, started yesterday evening when Mr Cordovez visited the Pakistan UN mission outside UN Headquarters in Geneva and held informal discussions with the Pakistan delegation. Later that night, he continued discussions with the Pakistan delegation at a working dinner he hosted for the Pakistan foreign minister, Sahabzada Yaqub Khan, and his delegation.

APP, quoting informed sources at the UN Headquarters, says it was likely that Mr Cordovez would undertake another shuttle to the region in not too distant future to hold further discussions in Tehran, Islamabad, and Kabul to promote a comprehensive political solution of the Afghanistan question. The sources add that there was a possibility that Mr Cordovez might be able during the shuttle to make the parties agree to fix a date for another round of the indirect talks on the Afghanistan problem.

Press Communique Issued*BK251201 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 25 Jun 83*

[Text] The third round of UN-sponsored indirect talks aimed at achieving a comprehensive political settlement of the Afghan crisis ended in Geneva last night. The UN secretary general's special representative on Afghanistan, Mr Diego Cordovez, told newsmen at the end of negotiations that substantial progress has

been made at the indirect talks and they continued to move forward. He said he would undertake a new round of discussions in three capitals, namely Tehran, Islamabad, and Kabul, toward the end of summer.

Mr Cordovez said he would also start preliminary consultations with the Governments of the Soviet Union and the United States, because during the talks these two nations have been identified as possible guarantors for the settlement of the Afghanistan crisis. He said arrangements would be made to ensure the return of Afghan refugees, living in Pakistan and Iran, to their homeland in safety. He said they held an excellent series of working sessions that discussed very difficult issues. He said Pakistani Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan and the Karmal regime representative, Mr Shah Mohammad Dost, have stressed that they would make all possible efforts to overcome the remaining obstacles. He did not elaborate on these obstacles.

When asked about the prospects of reaching an agreement on the Afghan problem, he said agreement would be reached when a number of things are settled. When asked if the chapter of Geneva negotiations had come to a close, he replied at present there was no need for further negotiations in Geneva.

Meanwhile, the UN Information Office in Geneva issued a press communique on the conclusion of indirect talks on Afghanistan last night. It said further progress has been made with regard to the draft text of a comprehensive settlement of the problem. The discussions were conducted in a realistic and give-and-take manner. The communique said further preparations will also be started to see that the arrangements made for the voluntary and unimpeded return of Afghan refugees are satisfactory. The communique added that the Government of Iran was kept informed of the negotiations through the Iranian permanent representative at the UN Headquarters in Geneva.

Summing up the just concluded phase of indirect talks in Geneva, Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan told ASSOCIATED PRESS OF PAKISTAN that the UN-sponsored endeavors for seeking a political solution to the Afghan problem will be continued and for this purpose, the UN secretary general's personal representative, Mr Cordovez, will soon undertake a tour of the countries of the region. Mr Cordovez's tour will take place before the next UN General Assembly session due to begin in September, he added. The foreign minister emphasized that the pace of progress made at Geneva negotiations will be maintained through Mr Cordovez's visits. He said the Geneva negotiations have greatly helped in making the draft text — for settlement of the problem — compact and purposeful and in removing doubts and suspicions as well as in generating understanding on various issues. Sahabzada Yaqub Khan said continuous progress was made during the indirect negotiations for finding a peaceful settlement to the Afghan problem. He said efforts were continued to tackle the basic issues regarding the settlement of the problem. Emphasis in these negotiations was laid on the time frame for the withdrawal of foreign forces from Afghanistan, international guarantees of noninterference, and consultation with the Afghan refugees, he added.

Yaqub Khan Statement

*BK261129 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT
26 Jun 83*

[Text] The foreign minister, Sahabzada Yaqub Khan, has said that at the UN-sponsored indirect talks in Geneva they have moved steadily to arrive at a draft (?pact) that would be agreeable to all sides for a comprehensive settlement of the Afghanistan crisis. In an interview with the BBC, he said there had been no deadlock in the talks and they made steady progress on the issues involved. He said the time frame for the withdrawal of the Soviet forces from Afghanistan is important and central because it is the axis ... which exists the synchronization of the whole process of a settlement. However, the foreign minister said that the time frame is one of the several issues discussed. There is another issue which from our point of view is extremely important and this is the process of consultation with Afghan refugees. He said we are in the process of developing a machinery for this purpose.

Asked to comment on the statement at a press conference in Geneva by a Soviet foreign policy expert, Mr Arbatov, implying that the United States is putting pressure on Pakistan for not to come to final settlement, the Pakistan foreign minister said there is no foundation in these allegations. He said it is wrong to say that any pressure of any type is being (?put on) Pakistan and it is equally wrong to say that the United States' position is one which (?hinders) the process of a negotiated settlement. The foreign minister said the United States has in fact publicly expressed support to the process of negotiations. He said he had also received assurances in his talks with the American secretary of state, Mr George Shultz, and other American leaders of the

support to Pakistan's efforts to achieve a political settlement of the Afghanistan issue. The foreign minister said we hope the process that has so far been made will continue.

AFP: MRD Calls for Defiance of Martial Law

BK261642 Hong Kong AFP in English 1629 GMT 26 Jun 83

[Text] Karachi, June 26 (AFP) — The Central Action Committee of Pakistan's seven-party Movement for Restoration of Democracy (MRD) has reiterated a call for a country-wide "black day" on July 5 to mark the sixth anniversary of the Pakistani military takeover.

The committee that met here Friday and yesterday under MRD leader Sardar Sherbaz Mazari appealed to all political parties and sectors of society to fully support the movement. It called for an end to martial law, the restoration of the 1973 constitution, general elections, and the transfer of power to elected representatives of the people.

Mr. Mazari told newsmen that the "black day" would be observed by defying the martial law ban on political activities.

Participants at the meeting condemned the arrests and alleged torture and mistreatment of thousands of political prisoners. They also asked for the immediate release of Benazir Bhutto, 30, daughter of the late Premier Zulfikar Ali Bhutto who was executed after the military takeover.

Musavi-Khamene'i Interviewed on War, Other Issues
GF241513 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT
 24 Jun 83

[Interview with Prime Minister Musavi-Khamene'i by Voice of The Islamic Republic of Iran correspondent in Yazd on 23 June — recorded]

[Excerpts][Musavi-Khamene'i] In the name of God, the merciful and compassionate.

Regarding our position vis-a-vis the war, our combatant forces are present on the fronts with great ardor and enthusiasm and are ready to inflict their blows on Saddam's forces. On the position in the area and their ranks, the latter are making efforts to drive us toward an imposed peace. Naturally, after having sacrificed so many martyrs and (?losses) in the way of God and by offering so much pure blood of the martyrs, it is not possible to treat this issue (?contrary to) our principles and our government, which is serving side by side with the people in attaining those rights, which are the nation's, and in achieving the aims and aspirations of the people and the slogan of the nation: War Until Victory. The government follows this policy despite innumerable obstacles.

When we mention difficulties [words indistinct] but we think that when our nation with its lofty ideals and (?objectives) wishes to continue the war, the government is only like a drop in the boundless ocean which can join with all its resources and with faith in God and [words indistinct].

[Correspondent] As is being reported (?in the media), what form will the resistance of the superpowers take against the Islamic Republic of Iran?

[Musavi-Khamene'i] This (?resistance) has many propagandistic, political, and military dimensions. In any case, it is increasing and we are encountering propagandistic and political aspects more than others. With regard to the military aspect, our system has displayed its strength, and as far as the future of the war is concerned, with regard to us and our nation, the result is clear. As for the issue on the international level, the powers are mobilizing their resources to the maximum in support of Iraq, but they cannot do more than this. As the imam of the nation once said, they cannot do anything; the fact is that the oppressive forces cannot harm the system of the Islamic Republic. Regarding the political aspect, naturally there are various forces at work in our country, in Lebanon, and in Afghanistan. [Words indistinct] and I will mention the recent conference in Williamsburg where the heads of the industrial nations met. When they spoke of Iran, they were happy over the deracination of the traitorous Tudeh Party and mentioned it as if Iran will now lean toward the West. In fact, they know that we cannot (?lean) toward the East or the West. But the way they refer to it is that a kind of pressure can be exerted subliminally on the international level.

Similarly, with regard to the developments in the Persian Gulf or the events taking place in Lebanon, as I mentioned before, all these are links in a premeditated conspiracy which we feel has been hatched against (?our revolution). This development has not taken place incidentally, but is aimed at the Islamic Revolution.

Regarding the standpoint of (?arms) we see the spate of publicity, but the imperialistic propagandists are always (?fabricating) and spreading various (?rumors). Even now the issue is to distort the Islamic Revolution with a spate of publicity so that our [word indistinct] nation may be influenced. But the thing we have learned from the Islamic Revolution in 4 years is not to be daunted by the superpowers. We will see what the result of this will be.

Nateq-Nuri Warns Against Superpower Interference
GF241543 Tehran IRNA in English 1522 GMT 24 Jun 83

[Excerpt] Tehran, June 24, IRNA — Interior Minister Nateq-Nuri warned Thursday that the U.S. and other superpowers which failed in materializing their filthy objectives against the Islamic Republic, might succeed in damaging the Islamic Revolution by taking advantage of certain internal disorders and bottle necks.

Speaking in a commemorative ceremony of martyrs of June 28th, here, the interior minister expounded on social justice in Islam and the objectives of the appointment of prophets.

Talking about the domination of imam's line within the society he said that the martyrs of June 28th among them Ayatollah Dr. Beheshti sacrificed their lives for the establishment of the genuine line of the Islamic Revolution.

Elaborating on the justice and elimination of discrimination Hojjat ol-Eslam Nateq-Nuri said that the people were not complaining about shortage and could bear them and that they were ready to sacrifice themselves in the cause of Islam and Koran. However, he continued, they were complaining about discrimination and favoritism which he emphasized should be eliminated in order not to give pretext to the enemies.

Several ranking officials and Majlis deputies as well as a group of Iraqi POW's were present in this ceremony.

Velayati Meets With Libyan Envoy 25 June
LD251702 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT
 25 Jun 83

[Text] S'ad Mujbir, secretary of the Libyan People's Bureau, met and conferred this afternoon with Foreign Affairs Minister Velayati. Brotherly relations between the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Libyan Jamahiriyah and ways to expand these relations in various fields, the common fight against world arrogance and Zionism, grounds for common unity between the Muslim and Arab nations in serving world Muslims, and the fight against the enemies of Islam were discussed and examined at the meeting.

Economic Talks With SFRY Begin in Belgrade

LD270051 *Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT*
26 Jun 83

[Text] The economic delegation of the Islamic Republic of Iran began its first round of talks with Yugoslav officials, including the head of the committee for transportation and communication, in Belgrade today. During these talks, the head of the Yugoslav delegation was optimistic over the expansion of economic relations between the two countries particularly in the field of transportation. He said: On the basis of talks held with Soviet and Romanian authorities, it has been agreed to transport 25,000 metric tons of goods via this country.

Transport Minister Meets With Bulgarian Premier

LD242058 *Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT*
24 Jun 83

[Text] Our country's Minister of Roads and Transport Mr Hadinezhad-Hoseyniyan, who is in Bulgaria at the head of a delegation, met and conferred with that country's premier at noon today. During this meeting, they reviewed and discussed the friendly relations between the two countries.

Mr Hadinezhad-Hoseyniyan also met with the Bulgarian minister of agriculture. At this meeting, the Bulgarian minister of agriculture expressed the hope that economic relations and commercial and agricultural trade between the two countries will expand in the future.

Sar Dasht Heights Captured; Battalions Destroyed

LD251742 *Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT*
25 Jun 83

[Text] The Hamzeh Seyyed ash-Shohada Headquarters, the joint operations center of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, and the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps report that in continuing their ceaseless battle against world oppression the combatants of Islam succeeded this morning in destroying 2 battalions of the enemy forces and in killing or wounding 450 of them in an attack on the positions held by the Ba'thist Zionist Iraqi forces on the border heights of Sar Dasht. The selfless epic-makers of the Army of Islam, in a coordinated operation that began at 2030 last night, destroyed the 3d and 8th Battalions of the Kirkuk Division of the Iraqi Ba'thist forces, killing about 200 and wounding about 250 of them, and capturing a number more. Officers and commanders of these battalions were among the dead.

The forces of Islam — comprising the selfless personnel of the guards, the Mobilization Unit of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, the heroes of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, the courageous gendarmerie personnel, the fast-flying pilots of the Airborne Division, and the Muslim Kurdish peshmarga — also succeeded in capturing the strategic heights of Rostam ('Aliyan) and the (Kanirash) pass and the important strategic range of (Dopaza), which overlooks the towns of (Qal'eh Dizah) and (Kirkuk) in Iraq, and also in destroying the (Khanibu) border post belonging to the enemy. It is noteworthy that these

heights had been in the hands of internal counterrevolutionaries, and that following the recent victorious operations carried out by the combatants of Islam in the Kordestan region the Ba'thist Zionist Iraqi enemy, supporting the members of the infidel minigroup, positioned these defeated battalions on those heights.

In this operation the forces of Islam destroyed several enemy heavy field guns and captured a 105-mm field gun, 10 vehicles, 8 mortars, 20 RPG-7's, 6 machineguns, 50 Kalashnikovs and 2 radio sets belonging to the enemy. Fifty internal counterrevolutionaries who were cooperating with the Ba'thist Zionist enemy were killed in the operation, which is indicative of the fact that the Saddamist forces, mercenary minigroups subservient to Iraq, and internal armed assailants are fighting on the same front.

Armed Forces Joint Staff Communique No 1,356

LD241734 *Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT*
24 Jun 83

[Communique No 1,356 of Joint Staff of Armed Forces of Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. Yesterday the Islamic combatants, who were guarding their defense positions on the battlefronts, opened fire on the armored and infantry units, concentration centers, and supply axes of the Iraqi forces, disrupting the enemy's ground activities and halting the Saddamists' movements.

On the Ilam and Bakhtaran border fronts there were exchanges of fire; our artillery units' fire destroyed one anti-aircraft gun and several enemy trenches and observation posts, and killed or wounded at least 50 Iraqi servicemen. In the (Nowsud) area four enemy trenches were set on fire by our combatants, and their personnel were killed. In the Baneh area our forces fired on enemy positions so that some of the Saddamist forces' fortifications and ammunition caught fire and was destroyed.

Exchanges of heavy weapon fire continued on the country's southern fronts, while the Islamic combatants enjoyed superiority along the contact lines. Our vigilant combatants fired with their heavy weapons on an enemy combat patrol unit, which intended to infiltrate our positions in the vicinity of (Pikeh Anduzan), forcing the unit to flee with losses and casualties.

At 0958 yesterday two enemy aircraft attacked the Nowruz and (Abu Zar) oilfields, but our air defense units' reaction forced them to flee.

Yesterday the city of Abadan was periodically fired upon by the enemy's long-range weapons, which resulted in four residential houses being damaged and one of our compatriots being wounded.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

Communique No 1,357

*LD251759 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT
25 Jun 83*

[Communique No 1,357 of Joint Staff of Armed Forces of Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. Sporadic battles and exchanges of fire continued yesterday on most of the country's western fronts, with the Meymak front witnessing the more intense fire. The combatants of Islam on each front defended their positions, opened fire, sent patrols to inflict losses and casualties on Iraqi forces, and brought Iraqi moves under control.

In the Ilam region, too, valiants of the gendarmerie, enjoying the upper hand over the Iraqi forces, halted enemy fire.

At 2200 hours 23 June combatants of Islam, after launching a series of triumphant operations, succeeded in stationing themselves on the Kani Dasht heights, Sar Dasht region, maintained a superiority of firepower over Iraqi forces, and inflicted considerable losses and casualties on the mercenary Iraqi Ba'athist forces.

During an exchange of fire on the southern fronts, an Iraqi forces patrol came under the ground force's timely artillery fire. As a result most of them were either killed or wounded.

In the border region of Susangerd, as a result of shooting by Islamic combatants, one of the Saddamist's ammunition dumps was set on fire and many in the enemy force were either killed or injured.

On the Abadan front, constant exchanges of fire between our forces and the Iraqis continued. As a result of fire by the stalwarts of the gendarmerie, in addition to inflicting losses and casualties on the Saddamist forces, parts of enemy positions and bunkers were destroyed.

At 0917 and 1014 hours today, proud members of the Air Force of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran attacked the Iraqi oil jetty at (Al-'Umayyah) and inflicted damages on it, to an extent as yet unreported.

In the past 24 hours a number of intruding aircraft of the aggressor Iraqi Armed Forces tried to violate the country's southern and western airspace, but they were denied by the high-flying pilots of the Air Force of the Islamic Republic of Iran and their tactical actions, as well as the fire of the air defense units.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

Communique No 1,358

*LD261728 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT
26 Jun 83*

[Communique No 1,358 of Joint Staff of Armed Forces of Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. While offering congratulations on the occasion of the birthday of Imam Hasan Mujtaba, peace be upon him, a brief report of the combat operations for the past 24 hours is brought to your attention.

Gunfire was exchanged sporadically on the border fronts of Ilam and Bakhtaran, and our fire pounded positions and fortifications of the Iraqi aggressors. On one of the western fronts of the country, a number of enemy patrols were observed. Thanks to the fire of the combative units of Islam, the enemy patrols suffered some losses and were dispersed.

All our combatants on the country's southern front maintained their superiority and control over all the region under their protection, returning enemy fire and silencing the heavy weapon fire of the Saddamists. In the Kushk sector, our forces opened fire on a patrol group of the enemy and forced them to flee.

On one of the southern border fronts, a unit of our warriors clashed with the enemy. Thanks to the support fire of our forces, a number of Iraqi troops were either killed or wounded and their arms and equipment were damaged.

During fire exchanges on the banks of Arvand Rud [Shatt al-'Arab] the forces of Islam opened fire on enemy positions and prevented Iraqi vehicles from moving along the Al Faw-Basrah highway.

During the past 24 hours, the timely fire of our air defense units and tactics of the fighter planes of the Air Force of the Islamic Republic of Iran neutralized the enemy's air raids on part of the operational sectors and some border regions, in the eastern and western parts of the country.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

'FVOI' Reports Tudeh Leaders, Afzali Executed

*GF251532 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian
1500 GMT 25 Jun 83*

[Text] According to reliable reports, Captain Bahram Afzali, the former commander of the Navy, together with the secretary general of Tudeh Party, Nureddin Kianuri; Mahmud E'temadzadeh alias Behazin, the party's theoretician; Ehsan Tabari; Colonel Reza Rahimi; and 39 other members of Tudeh's

Central Committee were put in front of firing squads last week in Tehran's Evin Prison. Bahram Afzali, the former commander of the Navy who had been arrested and imprisoned some time ago, was among the officers and military personnel who allegedly were members of the military branch of the Tudeh Party.

'Radio Iran' Reports on Tudeh Arrests

GF261600 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian 1330 GMT
26 Jun 83

[Text] The *Tehran Times*, published in English in Tehran, in its 25 June issue reported for the first time the number of arrested Tudeh's. According to the *Tehran Times*, so far 4,000 individuals have been arrested for links with the Tudeh Party. A large number of Army officers and Air Force pilots as well as high-ranking naval officers are among the arrested.

The *Tehran Times* did not reveal the names of these officers. However, informed observers state that one high-ranking officer is Captain Bahram Afzali who was fired and arrested immediately after the dissolution of the Tudeh Party. *The Daily Telegraph*, citing reports from Tehran, said yesterday that Capt Afzali and a number of other Tudeh leaders including E'temadzadeh, alias Behazin, were executed in Evin Prison.

Kurdish Autonomists To Free Iranian Prisoners

NC241957 Paris AFP in English 1738 GMT 24 Jun 83

[Excerpt] Paris, June 24 (AFP) — Iran's Kurdish autonomists have decided to "unilaterally liberate" 52 Iranian prisoners and turn them over to the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), the Paris office of the Democratic Kurdistan Party of Iran (DKPI) announced today.

(The ICRC Headquarters in Geneva confirmed it had received the DKPI request, and said it was "available" to carry out the

operation. It said it was awaiting a list of the prisoners' names, as well as the site of the liberation.)

In a letter to the ICRC, a copy of which was sent to AFP along with a list of the 52 prisoners, DKPI secretary-general Abdelrahman Ghassemlou said he had sought the good offices of the Red Cross in the liberation "with the aim of saving the lives" of the prisoners.

"We have learned that prisoners we freed were disappearing or turning up dead," he said.

He said the Kurds had taken "several hundred prisoners" in the course of fighting with Iranian Government forces, but that proposals for prisoner exchanges had been rejected by Tehran.

The Iranian prisoners "are now in our prisons and enjoy, in accordance with the Geneva conventions, the status of prisoner of war," Mr. Ghassemlou said. He added that a Red Cross mission of inquiry would be welcome to visit them.

Muslim Kurds Kill Iraqi Intelligence Team

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[Text] Muslim Kurdish revolutionaries in Iraqi Kurdistan executed eight members of Iraqi intelligence in the city of Ash-Sulaymaniyah, northern Iraq, on Saturday.

Officials of the Iraqi regime delivered the bodies of the executed to their families as if they had been killed in a car accident. The group of Saddam's intelligence elements were on a mission of filing an espionage security report on the Islamic movement in Iraqi Kurdistan.